

8601 "I'M SCARED" by John Rawson Speer

1. ANNCR: Tonight The Phantom Theatre presents a timely play
2. written by John Speer. The title is ...
3. MARY: (QUICKLY) "I'M SCARED!"
4. MUSIC: LITTLE SCARE RUN (BRIEF)
5. ANNCR: Yes, that's the title of the play ... "I'M SCARED!"
6. The people in the play are the people of the world ...
7. the people who are saying ...
8. RED MARTIN: I'm scared. (HE SAYS THIS CALMLY, MATTER OF FACT
9. STATEMENT, BUT YOU KNOW HE MEANS IT) I'm six feet
10. tall, weigh a hundred and eighty-five pounds - and
11. I used to do a little boxin' before I went into the
12. Navy back in '42 just after all the trouble broke
13. loose. My kid was just starting to toddle around
14. and say a few words ... but when I got back, he was
15. all grown up, and -- well, what I mean is -- he was
16. goin' to school. He's in the second grade now.
17. Swell kid, if I do say so myself. We call him Red --
18. Little Red - or sometimes Red Junior, because he's
19. got red hair like mine, and looks a lot like me
20. everybody says, and -- well, I guess he does. His
21. full name's Francis Pembroke Martin, but he doesn't
22. like it. He says ...
23. LITTLE RED: Aw, Francis is a girl's name, and I'm not no girl.
24. RED MARTIN: And that's when his mother usually defends her choice
25. of names with ...

3.

1. MARY: It's not a girl's name -- lots of fine men were called
2. Francis, including your grandfather.
3. LITTLE RED: But I don't like it, and Pembroke's no good neither.
4. MARY: Why, the idea! Pembroke was your uncle's name, and
5. he was in Congress -- a very highly-respected man,
6. and ...
7. LITTLE RED: Aw, but it's sissy, mom, and I don't like it. Red's
8. my name. Like dad, I am. Red Martin - that's me -
9. and I'm not afraid of nothin'.
10. RED MARTIN: That's something I taught him, soon as I got back
11. because when I first got back and into my civvies
12. again, I found out Little Red was afraid of the dark --
13. had to have the light in the hallway burning all
14. night, and the door to his bedroom left open, or he
15. wouldn't sleep. He'd lie there shaking and whimpering...
16. LITTLE RED: (CRYING) I'm scared of the dark ... I don't like to
17. be in the dark ... I don't wanna be in the dark.
18. RED MARTIN: Hey, hey, now, what kinda talk is that for a
19. grown-up man called Red?
20. LITTLE RED: But the dark scares me. I'm not afraid in the
21. daylight, but it's just in the dark when I can't see
22. nothin' -- when it gets all black inside and out.
23. RED MARTIN: But why, son, why?

1. LITTLE RED: I don't know. I just am. Aw, turn on the light,
 2. daddy. Don't make me sleep in the dark - with the
 3. door closed, 'cause somethin' might get me --
 4. somethin' might get me.

5. RED MARTIN: (LITTLE CHUCKLE) Red, Red, what's gonna get a fine,
 6. husky man like you?

7. LITTLE RED: A ghost might, or some kinda thing might -- maybe a
 8. mean old man might crawl in the window ...

9. RED MARTIN: (LITTLE LAUGH)

10. LITTLE RED: Well, he might! Aw, gosh, dad, weren't you never
 11. scared? Huh? Weren't you?

12. RED MARTIN: Sure, son - lots of times. But I didn't let it get
 13. me. I didn't let it whip me. I fought it back, and
 14. that's what you've gotta do, Red. Why, sometimes
 15. during the war I used to get so scared, I got sick --
 16. yeah, sick right in my tummy ...

17. LITTLE RED: You did?

18. RED MARTIN: Why, sure! Sometimes when those Japs came at us, I
 19. wanted to run -- just run - anywhere - fast! Fast as
 20. I could -- away from 'em -- but I couldn't. There
 21. wasn't any place to run - so I had to stay there, and
 22. fight ... fight to live.

23. LITTLE RED: Is that what makes us get scared?

1. RED MARTIN: What?

2. LITTLE RED: 'Cause we're afraid maybe we're gonna die?

3. RED MARTIN: Maybe.

4. LITTLE RED: I think that's why I get scared, 'cause I don't wanna
 5. die. I wanna live a long time.

6. RED MARTIN: You will, son -- you will!

7. LITTLE RED: But people die all a time - even little boys ...

8. RED MARTIN: Yeah, but not little boys called Red. They just
 9. live and live --

10. LITTLE RED: Yeah - honest?

11. RED MARTIN: Why, sure they do, 'cause they're tough, not scared
 12. of nothin', and especially not the dark ... so we
 13. start tonight with no lights.

14. LITTLE RED: No!

15. RED MARTIN: Yes - tonight. Lights out - door closed!

16. LITTLE RED: No, daddy, no! Don't close the door, and leave me
 17. here in the dark. Don't, daddy, don't leave me alone!

18. RED MARTIN: But, Red, you won't be alone. Look! Try it for just
 19. a few minutes - and I'll stand right outside the door.
 20. I'll come rushing in the minute you yell, but you see
 21. how long you can go, will you, son -- will you try?

1. LITTLE RED: Well, a --
2. RED MARTIN: Atta boy. Try it -- just to see how long you can go,
3. and remember I'll be right there. Now, here we go -
4. lights out.
5. SOUND: PULL CHAIN ON LAMP
6. RED MARTIN: And door closed.
7. SOUND: DOOR CREAKS AS IT CLOSSES
8. LITTLE RED: Daddy! I'm scared, I'm scared!
9. SOUND: DOOR OPENS
10. RED MARTIN: OK, Red, I'm right here! Just like I said. And now
11. let's try it again ... this time let's go a little
12. longer without you calling for me -- but remember,
13. I'll be right there, so will you try, son, will you?
14. LITTLE RED: OK, I -- I'll try, 'cause I don't wanna be a scaredy-
15. cat, dad, honest I don't.
16. RED MARTIN: And you won't, 'cause you're my boy - so just remember
17. that - you're Red Martin's boy, and we're brave guys --
18. we're not afraid, 'cause we know to be brave.
19. LITTLE RED: I'm gonna try -- I'm gonna try not to call ...
20. RED MARTIN: That's the stuff - that's the kind of kid I want.
21. SOUND: DOOR CREAKS AND CLOSSES

1. MUSIC: SLEEPY MOOD IN SOFTLY
2. RED MARTIN: (FADE IN) ... and that's how I taught my son to face
3. the dark ... to conquer his fears - but now I'm afraid --
4. yes, scared, and I thought, if ever the war got over,
5. if ever I came back to the good old MiddleWest where
6. I grew up and lived all my life, I'd never be scared
7. again. But I am! Scared sick ... and so's Mary,
8. my wife, because the other night - over the radio
9. we heard ...
10. NEWSCASTER: In Wichita, Kansas, the Governor of Pennsylvania -
11. George Earle - has startled a men's dinner club audience
12. with the dire prediction that not more than ten percent
13. of present Americans will be alive in five years. The
14. Pennsylvania Governor says his prophecy is the result
15. of several years' service as what he terms a personal
16. undercover agent for the late President Roosevelt in
17. Istanbul. And he says it stems from conversations
18. with American and Russian scientists concerning the
19. atomic bomb. Finally, the Pennsylvania Governor made
20. this electric statement. "I personally think we
21. should bomb Russia first. But I know we won't do it!"
22. MARY: (GASP) Red, did you hear that?
23. RED MARTIN: Yeah.
24. NEWSCASTER: This is all the news for now. I'll be back with you
25. tomorrow evening at this same time. This is - (STOPS)

1. MARY: (SAY THIS AHEAD OF CUE) Oh, turn it off, Red.
2. RED MARTIN: Yeah.
3. SOUND BUSINESS: RADIO SNAPPED OFF BEFORE ANNOUNCER GIVES HIS NAME
4. MARY: (AFTER PAUSE) Red, do you think we heard that right.
5. He surely didn't mean --
6. RED MARTIN: He didn't mean anything else! Didn't you read about
7. it in the paper this morning?
8. MARY: No, I didn't get a chance. Little Red and the dog
9. tore it up before I could get to it.
10. RED MARTIN: That's about all they talked about today around the
11. office.
12. MARY: Who is he - who said that?
13. RED MARTIN: Earle - used to be a governor - Pennsylvania.
14. MARY: But what's he mean only ten percent of the people
15. would be alive in -- did he say five years?
16. RED MARTIN: Yep.
17. MARY: War with Russia? Oh no, Red, no! What sort of fool
18. would say a thing like that?
19. RED MARTIN: Well, he's not a fool, honey. Of course, he's just
20. one man --

1. MARY: Yes, he is! How could he say such a thing? How
2. could he even think it? Haven't we had enough of war?
3. Wasn't the last one bad enough without anymore?
4. RED MARTIN: Sure, sure! But there's no use going all to pieces,
5. Mary. It's like I said, it's just one man's opinion.
6. Forget it. And now if we're gonna go to Lena's party,
7. we'd better get a move on ...
8. MARY: O.K. Guess you're right ... (FADING)
9. RED MARTIN: I'm not gonna stay long. I'm tired, so let's leave
10. early.
11. MARY: Suits me -- be ready in a jiffy. We'll have to go
12. by and get the girl to stay with Little Red.
13. RED MARTIN: O.K. (PAUSE) I said I wasn't going to stay long,
14. but I did ... 'cause everybody at Lena's party was
15. talking about it too ... and when I say it, I mean
16. The Thing - that's why it began to mean to me -
17. The Thing. (MUSIC: JAZZY PIANO FADING IN, LAUGHTER
18. FROM HARRY) We'd talk about it awhile, and then
19. we'd try to snap out of it, but we always came back
20. to it. Even the corny piano playing of Lena's
21. husband - big, fat, jolly, over-stuffed Harry Larkin -
22. who used to be on the stage -- didn't snap us out of
23. it, although he tried - he tried ...

1. HARRY: Hey, hey, cut out that atomic talk. This is supposed
 2. to be a party, you characters. Listen, I'll do the
 3. one I used to wow 'em with in vaudeville ... (GOES
 4. INTO "MY CUTIE'S DUE AT TWO TWO" or "DINAH", PLAYING
 5. AND SINGING PIANO)
 6. LENA: Oh, Harry, Harry, cut it out ... QUIET!
 7. HARRY: (STOPS) Aw, Lena, I'm just tryin' to snap 'em out
 8. of it!
 9. LENA: But we want to hear what Professor Mendelberg was
 10. gonna say about this other thing -- this - thing
 11. thing that's worse than the atomic bomb.
 12. PROFESSOR: But perhaps I'd better not go on, Lena. After all,
 13. Harry's probably right. All this talk of destruction
 14. is rather depressing.
 15. HARRY: That's what I'm tryin' to say! Where's it gonna get
 16. yah? If we're gonna have another war, we're gonna
 17. have another war ... so grab yourself a gopher hole ...
 18. (LAUGHS) Yes, sir! That's what I'm gonna do --
 19. or maybe I'll get in with the Jews! Yeah, that's
 20. what I'll do ...
 21. LENA: (CLEARING THROAT) Harry.
 22. HARRY: Get in with the Jews, and make a profit out of the
 23. next one. (LAUGH TILL STOPPED BY LENA)

1. LENA: Harry! Professor Mendelberg is --
 2. HARRY: (STOPS, LITTLE EMBARRASSED COUGH) Ahem --er -- a
 3. excuse me, Professor -- I didn't mean your kind of
 4. Jew. I -- a -- meant them "kikes" -- you know, the
 5. big schnozolla boys that got all the money tied up --
 6. LENA: You mustn't mind my husband, Professor. Harry, you
 7. and your big loud mouth!
 8. PROFESSOR: It's quite all right, Mrs. Larkin.
 9. HARRY: Why, sure, Lena. He understands I ain't talkin' about
 10. him. He's different! Why, only the other day I said
 11. I never knew a more regular guy, even if he is a --
 12. well, er -- a -- what I mean is, "You're a white Jew!"
 13. You're --
 14. PROFESSOR: No, Harry, I just happen to be a member of a very
 15. ancient religious faith. I'm sorry you think I am --
 16. well, different. That's not a tribute to my people.
 17. But now it's late, and I must go --
 18. LENA: Oh, no, Professor. You were just starting to tell us
 19. about this other thing they might use if we have
 20. another war. You said you were scared ... it scared you.
 21. PROFESSOR: Yes, Lena, I'm scared. I have been - for a long time.
 22. But not of what you think - not the atomic bomb -
 23. or the -- the dust of the synthetic atoms ...

1. LENA: That's it! You said it might be a dust, atomic dust.

2. PROFESSOR: Yes, atomic dusts which come from by-products of the

3. atomic piles, at present used to produce plutonium

4. for atomic bombs. From these can come certain deadly

5. synthetic elements.

6. LENA: But what do they do?

7. PROFESSOR: They give off rays, powerful rays of destruction.

8. Like radium, they give off gamma rays and others -

9. swiftly - in great quantities, and always fatal.

10. It would be the perfect military weapon.

11. RED MARTIN: But why do you say that, Professor? Is there such a

12. thing as a perfect military weapon?

13. HARRY: Naw! All this talk is scare stuff. Hundreds of years

14. ago, they were sayin' the same thing about gun powder.

15. PROFESSOR: I shan't argue! But I'll tell you this -- properly

16. produced and directed against a nation, it would be

17. the perfect military weapon, because this radio-active

18. dust could be prepared so that it could be deadly for

19. just two or three days - and then after a week or so -

20. after everyone was dead - the enemy could enter

21. without harm to himself.

22. HARRY: But what would it do?

23. LENA: Yes, what would it do to us?

1. PROFESSOR: It would destroy the people --

2. HARRY: Oh, not all --

3. PROFESSOR: Yes, all the people! They would die - in horrible

4. agony! Yet the nation's wealth, the things the enemy

5. wants, would be left in tact. The people - the

6. animals - the very grass and trees would be destroyed,

7. but not the gold, not the machinery, not the motor

8. cars - just the living things.

9. HARRY: Aw, but we'd find some way to beat it. We'd have

10. some kind of mask, or armor, or --

11. LENA: A shelter -- yes, a shelter -- someplace to go.

12. PROFESSOR: These are rays from the atomic dust - not gases - but

13. rays that penetrate, that travel in the wind - and

14. perhaps that's how it will come!

15. LENA: What?

16. PROFESSOR: The next war - silently - quietly - on a gentle breeze

17. -- no shattering explosion - no rumbling sound of

18. warning. Quietly it will come - unannounced until the

19. deadly rays have penetrated the very flesh and bones

20. of the people. And when the conqueror comes, he'll

21. march over the corpses in the street - he'll find them

22. in the homes - in subways - in parked cars on highways ---

23. MARY: Oh, don't - don't say anymore!

1. PROFESSOR: I shan't, Mary. I'm sorry. I too am scared, because
2. I think these discoveries have come too soon -- man's
3. not ready -- the growth of his heart and soul has not
4. quite caught up with the shrewdness of his intellect!
5. MARY: But must we use them? Must we use these terrible
6. things just because we have them?
7. PROFESSOR: I don't know, Mary. Ask Harry - ask yourself - who
8. do you hate? What do you hate? Why do you hate?
9. Harry is anti-semitic. He believes that most Jews
10. are like Shylock - and I confess that for a moment
11. tonight, my hatred flared against him! "Goysha!" was
12. the Hebrew word I had for him, and I felt the age-old
13. distrust for the gentile -- my orthodox grandmama
14. warning me away from him -- but that's over now. I
15. leave this house - as a friend --- I cannot - I dare not
16. leave otherwise, because - in this, our so-called
17. Atomic Age - each enemy made, each hate-nourished
18. prejudice - is just one more fuse leading to that
19. Big Bomb - that Last Bomb made by man. Good night -
20. Harry - Lena - Mary - Red -- my - my friends!
21. SOUND: DOOR OPENS (AFTER A SLIGHT PAUSE, CLOSSES)
22. RED MARTIN: It was several seconds after Professor Mendelberg had
23. gone out the door, before we found our voices, and
24. realized that we had not said an audible good night --
25. but I hope he knew - that my hand shaking his - said
26. we are friends -- God help us if we weren't.

1. MUSIC: "ELI ELI" (FEW BARS IN FADE GRADUALLY OUT)
2. RED MARTIN: That was the end of the party -- it was late - much
3. later than I had wanted to stay. It wasn't a good
4. party - no one could say it was - but I'm glad I went -
5. glad I heard, because he was right, I knew he was!
6. SOUND: CAR Mary knew it too, and as we drove along the nearly-
7. DRIVING B.G. deserted streets, heading home, she repeated ...
8. MARY: Each enemy made - each hate-nourished prejudice -
9. just one more fuse leading to that Big Bomb -- that -
10. that Last Bomb! Oh, Red, there's the answer -- if we...
11. RED MARTIN: Yeah, but can we -- can we get it out of our system?
12. Who do we hate - what do we hate - why do we hate --
13. he said!
14. MARY: Well, we - you and I - don't have many hatreds -- or
15. do we?
16. RED MARTIN: I don't know. What about the Ryans next door to us.
17. MARY: Those Catholics?
18. RED MARTIN: We usually say, "the fish eaters".
19. MARY: I know. We haven't tried very hard to get along
20. with them.
21. RED MARTIN: We haven't tried at all.
22. MARY: Well, I did make Little Red stop calling them
23. Cat Lickers ...

1. RED MARTIN: Yeah, but where'd he pick that up?
2. MARY: From you.
3. RED MARTIN: Right! And I've got to quit telling that slanderous
4. story about the Pope, especially around Little Red.
5. MARY: Maybe we ought to try to make friends with the Ryans.
6. RED MARTIN: Yeah, I suppose they tell everybody how awful we are --
7. "those terrible trashy protestants who live next door."
8. MARY: You know, Mr. Ryan's car's been in the garage, and
9. he's been taking the bus --
10. RED MARTIN: Yeah, and every morning, I've been getting a smug
11. little pleasure out of driving by while he waits on
12. the corner.
13. MARY: Silly, isn't it? We expect nations to get along, and
14. we can't even live at peace with our next door
15. neighbors.
16. RED: Yeah, but we gotta change, Mary, 'cause I'm scared.
17. MARY: So am I. Not so much for myself - but for Little Red.
18. RED MARTIN: Yeah, fine world it's gonna be for him if things
19. happen like Professor Mendelberg said.
20. MARY: Oh, it musn't -- it just mustn't happen that way.

1. RED MARTIN: It won't -- it won't. That Governor Earle -- he's
2. all wet. We're not gonna have war with Russia --
3. MARY: In five years he said!
4. RED MARTIN: He's off the beam. Maybe things look kinda bad right
5. now, but they'll straighten out. Let's forget it.
6. I gotta sleep tonight - or I'll never get up in time
7. tomorrow.
8. MARY: Oh, neither will I. (YAWNS) I - I'm so tired --
9. hmmm - let me snuggle on your shoulder. Can you
10. drive all right if I do?
11. RED MARTIN: Sure. Go ahead, honey --
12. MARY: Oh, Red, isn't it a beautiful clear night?
13. RED MARTIN: Yeah - swell!
14. MARY: Just look at all the stars - and the sky's so blue
15. and clear!
16. MUSIC: "MOONLIGHT MOOD"
17. RED MARTIN: And so we drove the rest of the way home - Mary
18. snuggled on my arm - the clear bright stars glittering
19. in the peaceful sky ... familiar, friendly streets
20. and homes -- clean white homes and trees I'd climbed
21. when I was a kid -- all these things I'd dreamed about
22. and wondered if I'd ever see again during those years

1. I was away -- now I had them - but for how long --
 2. how long would they be mine?
3. SOUND: CAR TURNS IN, COMES TO A STOP
4. RED MARTIN: And now my home -- the yawning garage startled by
 5. the sudden brightness of my headlights.
6. SOUND: DOG BARKS
7. RED MARTIN: The alert challenge of my dog, and then his happy
 8. recognition -- his tail wagging "hello".
9. SOUND: DOG HAPPY WHIMPER AND TAIL WAGGING, BEING PATTED
10. RED MARTIN: (TO DOG) Hello there, Soapy -- hello, old boy.
11. MARY: Oooo - Soapy - down! You'll ruin my dress ... I love
 12. you, boy - but not your big paws on my dress.
13. RED MARTIN: (LAUGHS)
14. SOUND: GARAGE DOOR BEING ROLLED DOWN
15. RED MARTIN: The garage door sliding down ... and then the little
 16. run to the back door - the screen door swinging open....
17. SOUND: SCREEN DOOR AND FOOT SCRAPING MUD ON MAT
18. RED MARTIN: The scraping of our feet on the mat, as automatic as
 19. the Japanese removing his shoes before entering his
 20. home -- and then Mary suddenly remembering ...
21. MARY: Oh, Red! You've put your car away, and you have to
 22. take Susie home.

1. RED MARTIN: Oh, gosh!
2. MARY: And oh, it's so late -- we shouldn't have stayed so
 3. late. What will her parents think of us? (CALLS)
 4. Oh, Susie, Susie, we're home! Has Little Red behaved?
 5. (FADING)
6. RED MARTIN: Again the car out of the garage - and the drive to
 7. take Susie, our sitter, home to her parents ... up to
 8. the door of their little house down by the tracks --
 9. a switch engine snorting at its box cars ... Susie's
 10. folks are not too well off, so what she gets for
 11. sitting up with Little Red helps-- I think they like
 12. me -- I'm not prepared for the sudden opening of
 13. the door ...
14. SOUND: DOOR OPENS SUDDENLY
15. RED MARTIN: The ugly scowling face of her father, as he says ...
16. FATHER: Get in here, Susie, and that's the last time you'll
 17. sit up with their brat. Here it is - almost two
 18. o'clock. Some folks think just because they got
 19. money they can get away with anything - but not
 20. with me - see?
21. RED MARTIN: Oh, now, just a minute, I --
22. FATHER: That's all I wanna say. I may be hard up, but I don't
 23. have to take no pushin' around from the likes of you.

1. Now just get in your fancy car, Money Bags - and
2. be on your way!
3. SOUND: DOOR SLAMS
4. RED MARTIN: I'm like a man who's been slugged when he's not
5. lookin' for it. Such out-of-the-sky bolts of hatred --
6. because to him I'm rich -- to that poor guy in that
7. shack down by the railroad track, I'm rich -- and
8. stepping on the poor. Me - who'll be scraping the
9. bottom of the barrel to pay my income tax next
10. March -- and this man I scarcely know, hates me -
11. calls my kid a brat! I don't feel so good driving
12. home - putting away the car - pulling down the
13. garage door again.
14. SOUND: GARAGE DOOR DOWN
15. RED MARTIN: It's late, and I'm tired - but I stand outside for
16. a moment - looking at the sky -- it's so quiet - so
17. very quiet - all except that little breeze stirring
18. through the trees ...
19. SOUND: SLIGHT WIND, RUSTLE OF TREES VERY GENTLE
20. RED MARTIN: And a plane - the sound of a plane - somewhere -
21. way off - way high up.
22. SOUND: AIRPLANE MOTOR DISTANCE, APPROACH AND FADE
23. MUSIC: LONELINESS MOOD OF MOONLIGHT AND MYSTERY

1. RED MARTIN: It's just an ordinary airliner -- maybe heading for
2. the coast with some glamorous movie star - or some
3. famous statesman flying to some great conference
4. I say a little prayer up there to that sound - I say:
5. "Oh, Statesman - Politician - Big Shot - whoever
6. you are -- you with your brief case full of facts
7. and figures - your mouth full of words in all the
8. languages of the world -- do something, Big Shot --
9. do something for us little guys who wanna keep our
10. patch of land, our homes, our wives, our kids free -
11. free from the Thing - The Thing they say may come!"
12. MUSIC: (UP FEW SECONDS, THEN GRADUALLY FADE UNDER)
13. RED MARTIN: And now I'm tiptoeing through the house - my nice
14. warm house - past Little Red's bedroom with its door
15. closed, and he inside that room, sleeping soundly,
16. no longer afraid of the dark -- but now here I am --
17. scared - scared, because everywhere I go - all the
18. people I know - they too are scared.
19. SOUND: CLOCK WINDING
20. RED MARTIN: Wind the clock - set the alarm - lift the window ...
21. SOUND: WINDOW SLIDE UP, SLIGHT BREEZE IN
22. RED MARTIN: Let the cool, clean, sweet, fresh night air in -- let
23. it ripple the curtains -- but wait! Is it clean - is
24. it fresh? Somewhere - somewhere I read that radium

1. particles from the atomic mist that mushroomed over
 2. far-off Bikini were picked up in the air off the coast --
 3. the coast of California ... harmless, they said ...
 4. not enough to hurt - but there are more bombs - more
 5. where that one came from. Cut it out! Cut it out,
 6. I say to myself - get your sleep - kiss your wife ...

7. MARY: (STIRS, STRETCHES, HALF ASLEEP) Ummmm .. night, darling.

8. RED MARTIN: 'Night, sweet.

9. MARY: Did you set the alarm?

10. RED MARTIN: Yah, all set!

11. MUSIC: EERIE, MYSTERIOUS

12. RED MARTIN: (YAWNS) Sleep - try to sleep - so little time - clock
 13. on the table ticking fast - like a hungry little
 14. beast chewing up the minutes of my life.

15. SOUND: CLOCK (ALARM GRADUALLY IN)

16. RED MARTIN: Forget that guy - that governor who said ...

17. GOVERNOR: (ECHO) Ten percent - not more than ten percent of
 18. present Americans will be alive in five years.

19. RED MARTIN: (MUTTERING IN SLEEP) No, no - why do you want to
 20. say things like that?

21. GOVERNOR: In five years - not more than ten percent - ten
 22. percent of present Americans will be alive in five years.

1. RED MARTIN: No ... no ...

2. GOVERNOR: I personally think we should bomb Russia - FIRST!

3. SOUND & MUSIC: EXPLOSION SCREAMING SHELL, EXPLOSION, ORGAN RUMBLE

4. GOVERNOR: (AFTER PAUSE) But I know we won't do it!

5. RED MARTIN: No, no, we mustn't -- and they mustn't.

6. SOUND: CLOCK UP, TICKING RAPIDLY

7. RED MARTIN: I'm not sleeping - and I need my sleep - but my
 8. dreams are full of voices - sounds -- my wife who
 9. says ...

10. MARY: (FILTER) Must we use them? Must we use these
 11. terrible things, just because we have them?

12. RED MARTIN: Professor Mendelberg - his sensitive face drawn and
 13. bitter - and saying ...

14. PROFESSOR: (FILTER) I don't know, Mary. Ask Harry - ask
 15. yourself. Who do you hate? What do you hate? Why
 16. do you hate?

17. RED MARTIN: Harry -- big, fat, corny, loud-mouthed Harry - telling
 18. that joke -- his favorite dialect story ...

19. HARRY: (LAUGHING ON HOLLOW MIKE) ... and so this dirty Kike -
 20. this big-nosed Jew, says ... (LAUGH) .. this'll kill
 21. you -- I gotta use my hands to tell this one -- you

1. know how all them guys talk -- so this Jew says --
 2. "Oyo yoi yoi. Becky, I'm tellink you - think of the
 3. money - the money!"
4. RED MARTIN: SHUT UP! (DOWN) I say to him in my sleep - and my
 5. back feels cold and wet with sweat ... sleep ... I
 6. gotta get some sleep! But those voices - even my kid -
 7. even Little Red, playing in our yard, and yelling
 8. to our neighbors ...
9. LITTLE RED: (TEASING, SINGING QUALITY) Catlicker Ryans ...
 10. Catlicker Ryans ... fish-eatin' fish-eaters ... drunk
 11. all night Saturday - go to Mass on Sunday - fish-
 12. eatin' catlickers!
13. RED MARTIN: (MUTTERING OVER SPEECH) No, no, Little Red... I'm
 14. awake again - wide awake - smoke a cigarette - promise
 15. myself that I'll talk to my kid, tomorrow - start
 16. tomorrow - teach him not to hate, not to mock those
 17. of other beliefs - just because they're different ---
 18. no man keeps his dignity when he destroys the dignity
 19. of others. Oh, Red, Red - Little Red, I've failed
 20. you as a parent, if I don't teach you to love - love
 21. not hate all races - all mankind. Now sleep - sleep --
 22. get some sleep.
23. SOUND: WIND STIRS IN SOFTLY
24. RED MARTIN: Gentle breeze slipping into our room - lifting up the

1. curtains - light in my neighbor's bedroom window -
 2. my Catholic neighbor - can't he sleep? Is The Thing
 3. that's coming, if we fail - if we fail God and
 4. ourselves -- are thoughts of The Thing that's coming
 5. keeping him awake - is he thinking that someday -
 6. five years - twenty-five - fifty - we'll hear a voice
 7. speaking over radio or television saying
8. VOICE: (ECHO) We've failed! All efforts to make peace have
 9. failed. The first atomic bomb fell in New York
 10. Harbor at exactly ten-twenty-eight this morning ...
 11. through the courtesy of the Columbia Network Color
 12. Television, we show you those who are left alive in
 13. the city, being evacuated as quickly as possible --
14. SOUND & MUSIC: TRAFFIC JAM, MUMBLE OF VOICES, FURIOSO HURRY
15. RED MARTIN: Is my neighbor thinking that someday our highways,
 16. on the broad flat plains of Kansas and Oklahoma, will
 17. be jammed with humanity fleeing the deadly rays from
 18. the smouldering ruins of Wichita - Hutchinson -
 19. Oklahoma City - Tulsa -- is he wondering, will it
 20. come with a roaring rumble of doom
21. MUSIC: ORGAN RUMBLE
22. SOUND: EXPLOSION AND SCREAMS, HIT AND FADE
23. RED MARTIN: Or silently - unseen - unknown - unsuspected -- until
 24. too late - out of the night - from nowhere ... Russia -

1. South America - England - India - Asia -- all deny it --
2. MUSIC: EERIE
SUGGESTIVE OF
LIGHT BREEZE
3. no one knows where it came from -- the dust - the
4. deadly dust blown on a gentle breeze ... a doctor
5. DOCTOR: trying to explain to me ...
6. It's hopeless -- the rays have completely penetrated
7. your wife ...
8. RED MARTIN: No, no! You've got to save her -- you've gotta ...
9. DOCTOR: It's too late - nothing we can do - thousands are
10. dying like this - everywhere - everywhere.
11. RED MARTIN: No, no, Mary, Mary ... (CRIES OUT) MARY!
12. MUSIC: RIDES UP WITH HIM, STOPS ABRUPT
13. MARY: Red! Red - darling, what are you doing - having a
14. nightmare?
15. RED MARTIN: Mary alive - feel her arm - feel her flesh - Mary
16. alive - smiling at her big six-foot hunk of man who
17. wakes up screaming in the night.
18. LITTLE RED: (OFF) Daddy! Daddy! What happened? What's a
19. matter, Daddy?
20. RED MARTIN: Little Red - my kid wide-awake -- bare feet paddling
21. down the hall ...
22. SOUND: DOOR OPEN

1. LITTLE RED: Daddy, what's a matter -- what's a matter?
2. MARY: It's nothing, Little Red - nothing - your father
3. just had a nightmare.
4. LITTLE RED: Nightmare?
5. RED MARTIN: Yes, that's all - go back to bed, son --
6. LITTLE RED: Gee, was yah scared, dad?
7. RED MARTIN: Yes - guess I was, son - guess I was.
8. LITTLE RED: (LAUGHING) Oh, boy, that's pretty good - daddy
9. gettin' scared. I don't get scared no more, but
10. daddy does -- (FADING LAUGHING) That's a good one -
11. daddy gettin' scared ...
12. MUSIC: DAWNING EFFECT
13. RED MARTIN: Morning comes - at last - and I'm glad ... things to
14. do ... lots of things I must do today - and every day -
15. friends to make - my neighbor waiting on the corner
16. for the bus ---- (CALLING) Hey, hop in -- I'm goin'
17. to town! (DOWN) He looks surprised - almost
18. startled -- can't believe he heard me right -- but
19. now he's in - and we're sitting side by side - we talk -
20. we laugh a little - we know we're going to be friends,
21. because it's true what I suspected -- he didn't sleep
22. very good last night -- he was ...

1. CATHOLIC: Scared -- yessir, when I see the prejudice in myself -
 2. in others - I realize we've got to change -- we've
 3. all got to change -- wars don't happen when people
 4. understand each other --

5. RED MARTIN: Yeah, if we fail this time, there's no way out --
 6. there's no other chance to try again. You and me -
 7. we're friends now - and we've got to sell other
 8. people on the value of Brotherhood.

9. CATHOLIC: Yeah, that's about all the little guys like us can do.
 10. We've got to get rid of our hatred, gotta teach our
 11. kids to respect religion - and I don't know about
 12. your religion, Mr. Martin - but I know I'm gonna get
 13. closer to mine.

14. RED MARTIN: Me too - our chaplain in the navy said once, "There
 15. are no athiests in the fox holes!"

16. CATHOLIC: Yeah, and I guess that's what we're in.

17. RED MARTIN: Yeah, the whole world's in a fox hole -- the last
 18. fox hole.

19. CATHOLIC: Our priest, Father McCauley - splendid man, wish you
 20. could meet him --

21. RED MARTIN: Like to.

22. CATHOLIC: Says - he says - God doesn't fail Man - we fail God.

1. RED MARTIN: I think he's got something there --

2. MUSIC: RELIGIOSO THEME

3. RED MARTIN: We're friends now - we talk and understand - my
 4. Catholic friend and I -- we're scared - still scared
 5. of The Thing - but that makes us work harder to clean
 6. our minds, sweep out the dark corners where ignorance
 7. breeds prejudice, and fears fan the flames of hatred.
 8. I don't think it'll come - what Governor says -
 9. not if we - the little guys - the little guys
 10. everywhere - make a big noise ... a big noise so loud -
 11. so clear - so God-filled that it will drown out the
 12. voices of the few - the few who might try to push
 13. that button on that Thing - that Thing we all fear.
 14. We're going to bed now - in our little home - Little
 15. Red wants me to hear him say his prayers

16. LITTLE RED: Now I lay me down to sleep - pray the Lord my soul
 17. to keep ...

18. RED MARTIN: Wait a minute, son.

19. LITTLE RED: What, daddy?

20. RED MARTIN: How about saying it a little different --

21. LITTLE RED: How, daddy?

22. RED MARTIN: How about -- now we all lay down to sleep --

1. LITTLE RED: And pray the Lord their souls to keep?
2. RED MARTIN: Yes, son - let's not just pray for ourselves, but for
3. all the souls, all the --
4. LITTLE RED: I get it! And if we should die before we wake --
5. pray the Lord our souls to take!
6. MUSIC: RELIGIOUS FINISH CURTAIN
7. ANNCR: And so the curtains falls on an original play written
8. by John Speer especially for this Week of National
9. Brotherhood. If you are scared of the Thing - why
10. not decide to do something -- don't just let it
11. happen -- get right with God first - then yourself -
12. then your fellowman. Who do you hate? What do you
13. hate? Why do you hate? Membership in the National
14. Conference of Christians and Jews is a practical
15. means of uniting with others who believe in the
16. Brotherhood of the Human Race. Christians and Jews
17. all over the world are joining this organization.
18. Will you? A card addressed to the National Conference
19. of Christians and Jews, _____ Derby Oil Building in
20. Wichita, will bring you information on how you can do
21. something that might stop The Thing ... it's a step
22. forward ... to the right. Will you take that step?
23. We'll repeat the address again ... NATIONAL
24. CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS - Derby Oil Building.

1. This program was produced in the Studios of KFH -
2. Wichita - and is heard every Friday night at 10:30 --
3. THE PHANTOM THEATRE!
4. MUSIC: (UP TO FINISH)